24747 US Hwy 24 P.O. Box 190 Minturn, CO 81645-0190 970-827-5715 Fax: 970-827-9343

File Code:

1950; 2410; 2600

Date:

February 3, 2020

Dear Interested Party,

United States

Agriculture

Department of

The Eagle/Holy Cross Ranger District of the White River National Forest (WRNF) welcomes your comments on our proposal to conduct hazardous fuels reductions, forest restoration, and wildlife habitat improvement on Derby Mesa, located in Eagle County, Colorado. Proposed activities include logging and associated activities, road reconstruction, and broadcast burning. Your comments will help us further develop the proposed action, potential alternatives, and determine if the project could be categorically excluded from further documentation in an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS). This project is currently being considered for categorical exclusion from documentation in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement under one or both of the following authorities:

36 CFR 220.6 (e) (6) – Timber stand and/or wildlife habitat improvement activities that do not include the use of herbicides or do not require more than 1 miles of low standard road construction.

<u>Sections 605 of HFRA (16 U.S.C.6591d)</u> – Wildfire Resilience. Hazardous fuels reduction projects in designated areas on National Forest System lands.

A description of the Proposed Action is available online at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56829. Supporting documentation is also available for review at the Eagle/Holy Cross Ranger District located in Minturn, Colorado.

How to Comment and Timeframe

The Eagle – Holy Cross Ranger District is now soliciting comments on the proposed action. To make a fully informed decision it is important to understand any issues you may have with this proposal and how you believe they could be addressed. In this context, "issues" are defined as concerns with the proposed action based on some effect you believe it would cause. For your input to be most useful, it should be specific to this proposal rather than generic to all projects of this type. Comments offered in support of the proposal are also welcome.

The following options are available for submitting comments:

Electronic comments including attachments can be submitted to:

https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=56829

Hard copy comments can be mailed, or hand-delivered to:





Mail

Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District Attn: Brett Crary PO Box 190 Minturn, CO 81645

Hand Deliver

Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District Attn: Brett Crary 24747 US Hwy 24 Minturn, CO 81645

Comments will be accepted any time, but are most helpful if submitted prior to March 13th, 2020. Names and contact information submitted with comments will become part of the public record and may be released under the Freedom of Information Act. Decisions that are categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are not subject to an administrative review process (pre-decision objection process) (Agriculture Act of 2014, Subtitle A. Sec. 8006).

Additional information regarding this project can be obtained from: Brett Crary, (970) 328-5899, brett.crary@usda.gov

Thank you for your interest and engagement in the management of your White River National Forest.

Sincerely,

MARCIA GILLES Acting District Ranger

Marcia & Ils

cc: doug.leyva@usda.gov; brett.crary@usda.gov; elizabeth.roberts@usda.gov; jennifer.l.prusse@usda.gov